

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF

Thomas Anthony Parker

SERIAL NO:

FILED:

FOR: Migration from In-Clear to Encrypted
Working over a Communications Link

Examiner:

Art Unit No:

1c828 U.S. PTO
09/585665
06/01/00

#3

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honourable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97-1.98, submitted herewith is Form PTO-1449 along with copies of the 5 references identified therein. Also submitted herewith is a copy of the British Search Report which was received by the Applicant on 15 December, 1999 and which constitutes the first knowledge of the Applicant of the cited references. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore being timely filed and no fee is required.

Two of the references were cited merely as category A documents (WO 98/19243, US 4815128), and it is believed that these references, while of technological background interest, are not relevant to the invention as claimed in the present application.

The three remaining references were cited as Category X against the British independent claims. The claims as filed in the present application have been restricted in comparison with the British claims in view of these references.

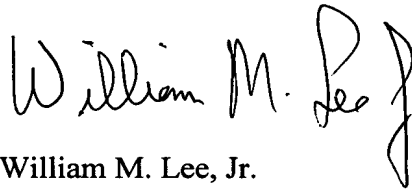
The claims of the present application specifically point out that whilst initially, for example, the computer system is capable of operating in a plurality of modes, following the migration to encrypted working only encrypted working is possible. The three references US 5594798, 5579394 and 5077791 relate to telecommunications systems where it is possible to go between a normal (clear) mode of working and a secure (encrypted) mode of working, and back again, when desired. This is not the intention of the present application which is particularly concerned with migrating complex systems from in-clear to encrypted working, that is permanently changing the mode of working to encrypted working when possible, e.g. when the appropriate keys have been delivered to remote sites, as is clearly discussed in the present application.

It is therefore submitted that the claims of this application are clearly patentable over the references.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

Date: 5/31/00

Respectfully Submitted



William M. Lee, Jr.

Registration No. 26,935

Lee, Mann, Smith, McWilliams,
Sweeney & Ohlson

P.O.Box 2786

Chicago, Illinois 60690-2786

(312) 368-1300

Facsimile (312) 368-0034